

such as Larry Haab succeed. I wish him the best during his retirement. He has been very successful with Illinova, and it has been a pleasure to represent him in the United States Congress.

#### EDUCATION FUNDING

### HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 24, 1998*

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, just yesterday, I met with principals from schools in the 4th Congressional District of Colorado and I would ask my colleagues to consider the issues raised by these education professionals. Congress, they told me, has mounted bureaucratic obstacles which prevent them from putting federal education dollars to use for their students. The paperwork and bureaucratic red-tape associated with federal money are hurdles which prevent dollars from reaching the classroom.

Principal Betsy Dumph from the town of Hudson, Colorado, stated that small schools like hers simply do not have the money to hire professional grant writers to negotiate the extensive federal grant applications and are therefore at a competitive disadvantage to large districts when seeking federal grants. Another principal described how bureaucratic rules often keep her school ineligible for federal grants. The entire group expressed frustration with federal rules concerning special education which restrict them from removing dangerous students.

These principals aren't the only ones who feel this way. Teachers and parents in northern Colorado told the Committee on Education and the Workforce they share the same sentiments. Over 79% of respondents to an education survey in my district support sending the majority of all federal education funds directly to the classroom. Nearly 85% would support efforts to eliminate onerous federal mandates affecting education.

The objective of these Oversight hearings was to produce the Education at a Crossroads report to Congress. Based on witness testimony, the Subcommittee has made four recommendations—send dollars to the classroom not the education bureaucracy, strengthen local control, emphasize basic academics, and promote parental involvement. These suggestions came after two years of investigations and the testimony of 225 witnesses in 15 states including Colorado. The report was adopted by the Subcommittee on the 17th of July.

Before developing these recommendations, the Subcommittee made several observations: There are 760 federal education programs. An average of 48.6 million hours are spent doing paperwork. As little as 65 cents of every federal tax dollar makes it to the classroom. There are over 18,000 federal employees and full-time equivalents administering federal education programs.

There are disturbing national trends that Congress should address. For example, almost half of America's fourth-graders do not read at even a basic level. Half of all students from urban school districts fail to graduate on time, if at all. The average 1996 NAEP scores among 17-year-olds are lower than they were

in 1984. American senior high students only outperformed two out of 21 nations in mathematics according to the Third International Mathematics and Science Study. Public higher education institutions spend one billion dollars on remedial education.

The answer to this situation is simple: Listen to educators, parents, and administrators and take their advice. For once, the government needs to support what works and take the suggestions of professionals who are making the grade and making a difference.

Mr. Speaker, the principals I met with, the letters, responses and phone calls I have received have pointed to the same thing. The findings in the Education at a Crossroads report come as no surprise because they simply state what people have been saying for some time—get rid of the red tape and put dollars in the classroom; trust teachers, local administrators and parents to make decisions about policy and budgeting rather than Washington bureaucrats in the Department of Education. It is time we listen.

#### JULIAN BREECE: ONE OF D.C.'S BRIGHT STARS

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 24, 1998*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of the bright stars of the District of Columbia, Julian O. Breece. Though only seventeen years old, Julian has compiled an exemplary academic record, extensive production and anchoring experience in local and national television, served as a Youth Ambassador to Israel, and participated in the Junior Statesmen summer school program. Now, I am proud to recognize his latest achievement: a \$10,000 scholarship in the Arts and Humanities category of the Discover Card Youth Program. Julian joins a select group of only nine award recipients from around the nation, achievers who stand out personally and academically.

Julian Breece, like so many other D.C. students, is a gifted and talented young man. His 4.0 grade point average at Benjamin Banneker Academic Senior High School simply wasn't enough; Julian had to do more. He has worked with the D.C. Public Schools cable station, DC28, for two years, honing his skills as an anchor, writer and producer. Julian is a regular panelist on Black Entertainment Television's Teen Summit show, which airs nationally each week. I am proud that Julian uses his exceptional oratorical and communications skills to serve his community.

Julian's community service endeavors, awards and activities are simply too numerous to list here. From theater troupes to helping the homeless, from foreign affairs programs to science fairs, Julian Breece has made an important contribution to the life the District of Columbia. I have no doubt that he will continue to contribute to this city and this nation as he grows and matures, striving to promote cultural understanding and community awareness. My warmest congratulations to Julian on his latest award, and my regards to his parents, who have raised such a fine son!

#### ADDITION TO DEBATE ON HOUSE RESOLUTION 392

### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 24, 1998*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include the letter of July 16 from Chairman BILL ARCHER and my reply of July 17 as part of the record of the proceedings on House Resolution 392, relating to the role of Japan in solving the economic crisis in Asia, that took place on the House floor on Monday, July 20:

COMMITTEE ON  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,  
*Washington, DC, July 17, 1998.*

Hon. BILL ARCHER,  
*Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,  
House of Representatives.*

DEAR BILL: Thank you for your letter about the consideration of H. Res. 392, relating to the role of Japan in solving the economic crisis in Asia.

I very much appreciate your willingness, in view of the urgency of this matter, to forego marking up the resolution in the Committee on Ways and Means.

After consultation with Chairman Bereuter and the minority, I am certainly prepared to bring H. Res. 392 to the floor as ordered reported by the Committee on International Relations on suspension without additional amendment. I also accept the other understandings set out in your letter.

I will be working with the Majority Leader to arrange for early consideration of the Resolution on the suspension calendar.

With best wishes,  
Sincerely,

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,  
*Chairman.*

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,  
*Washington, DC, July 16, 1998.*

Hon. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,  
*Chairman, Committee on International Relations,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing in reference to H. Res. 392, relating to Japan, which was reported to the House by the Committee on International Relations, as amended, on June 25, 1998. The resolution was sequentially referred to the Committee on Ways and Means until July 17, 1998, to address provisions within the Committee's jurisdiction.

On July 15, 1998, the Subcommittee on Trade of the Committee on Ways and Means held a hearing to review U.S.-Japan trade policy. This very productive hearing allowed the Subcommittee to address the necessity for Japanese implementation of broad structural reforms, including deregulation of its economy, reform of its banking system, improved transparency, and the opening of its distribution system to eliminate exclusionary business practices.

Accordingly, in order to expedite consideration of this important legislation, I do not believe that a markup by the Committee on Ways and Means will be necessary on H. Res. 392. However, this is being done only with your assurance that you will bring the resolution, as reported by the Committee on International Relations, to the House for a vote under suspension of the rules, with no additional amendment. In addition, this action by the Committee on Ways and Means with respect to H. Res. 392 is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee's jurisdictional prerogative on this measure or any other